Allotment of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies

2993. PROF. PREM DHUMAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences of petrol pumps and LPG agencies allotted during 1-4-1989 to 30-11-89, 1-12-1989 to 7-11-90 and 8-11-1990 to 19-6-91;

(b) whether any complaints have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). During the period 1.4.89 to 19.6.91 Government, in their discretion sanctioned 229 retail outlet (petrol/diesel) dealerships and LPG distributorships. Out of these all the allotments made since December, 1989 are being reviewed.

[Translation]

Kota Thermal Power Plant

2994. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the commercial production is yet to start in the Kota thermal power station;

(b) if so, whether the setting up of this plant was entrusted to a private company of Calcutta;

(c) if so, whether this company has not set up the plant so far; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to set up the power station at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). Four units with the following details have been commissioned at Kota Thermal Power Project of Rajasthan State Electricity Board:

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	*Project/Unit No.*		*Capacity (MW)*	*Date of Commissioning*
1	*2*		*3*	*4*
1.	Kota Stage-I	Unit-1	110	1/83
		Unit-2	110	7/83
2.	Kota Stage-II	Unit-3	210	9/88
		Unit-4	210	5/89

The main plant and equipment of all these units was supplied and erected by BHEL, a Government of India Undertaking.

Unit 5 of 210 MW under Stage-III of the Kota Thermal Power Project was sanctioned by the Planning Commission in February, 1989. Order for the main plant and equipment in respect of this unit has also been placed on BHEL in August, 1990. The Central Electricity Authority have informed that further works in respect of this unit have not been taken up on account of the funds constraints of the project authority.

Drilling for Oil and Gas in Rajasthan

2995. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts in Rajasthan where seismic survey has been conducted for oil and natural gas and when the surveys were conducted;

(b) the number of places where drilling work has been undertaken and the number of wells where oil and natural gas has struck;

(c) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and the Oil India Limited have adequate deep drilling rigs;

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to make arrangements for more rigs;

(e) whether as per the opinion of the experts, there are some more such areas in Rajasthan where oil and natural gas may be found; and

(f) if so, whether the Government propose to conduct any survey in such areas?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Seismic surveys have been conducted in Jaisalmer Barmer, Jalaur, Bikaner, Jodhpur and Ganganagar districts since 1958.

(b) 53 exploratory wells have been drilled at 19 places gas has been discovered in 22 of these wells. In addition indications of heavy crude oil have been found in one well where production testing is in progress. Drilling of two other wells is in progress.

(c) and (d). In addition to having their own rigs, deep drilling rigs are also contracted for as and when required.

(e) and (f). Exploration is continuing in the above areas. Five blocks in Rajasthan have also been included in the Fourth Round of bidding for exploration for oil and gas.

Training Tourist Guides

2996. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of trained guides to promote Tourism in the country;

(b) whether even after fixing the time with Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation the guides do not take the assignments;

(c) the details of action taken in such cases; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase the number of guides?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No reference in this regard has been received from Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Department of Tourism has an ongoing programme for training of tourist guides.